

REMARKS

The Examiner correctly observed that this application is a division of Application No. 09/761,829. Section 18 of the Utility Patent Application Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/05) mistakenly identified the application as a continuation, but properly identified the parent application. Accordingly, applicants have amended the specification to indicate that it is a division of U.S. Serial No. 09/761,829, filed January 18, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,529,704.

Claims 7-13 and 15-23 are pending. Claims 21-23 are allowed. Claims 7-10 and 15-17 have been objected to by the Examiner.

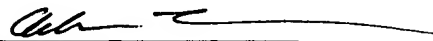
The Examiner indicated that claims 7-10 and 15-17 contain allowable features. Claims 7 and 15 have been rewritten in independent form and contain all of the features of their canceled base claims. Claims 7 and 15 are therefore allowable. Claims 11 and 12 have been amended such that they now depend from allowable claim 7 and are therefore allowable. Claims 18 and 19 have been amended such that they now depend from allowable claim 15 and are therefore allowable. These amendments moot the rejections of claims 6, 11-14 and 18-20.

In view of the above, each of the pending claims in this application is in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 204552019310.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Adam Keser
Registration No. 54,217
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 300
McLean, Virginia 22102
Telephone: (703)760-7301